**Australian slang**

**A**  
Ace! : Excellent! Very good!   
Ankle biter : small child   
Apples, she’ll be : It’ll be alright   
Arvo : afternoon   
Aussie (pron. Ozzie) : Australian

**B**  
B & S : Bachelors’ and Spinsters’ Ball - a very enjoyable party usually held in rural areas   
Back of Bourke : a very long way away   
Bail (somebody) up : to corner somebody physically   
Bail out : depart, usually angrily   
Barbie : barbecue (noun)   
Beaut, beauty : great, fantastic   
Big-note oneself : brag, boast   
Bikkie : biscuit (***also*** “it cost big bikkies” - it was expensive)  
Bizzo : business (“mind your own bizzo”)   
Bloke : man, guy   
Bloody : very (bloody hard yakka)   
Bludger : lazy person, layabout, somebody who always relies on other people to do things or lend him things  
Blue : fight (“he was having a blue with his wife”)  
Bodgy : of inferior quality   
Bog in : commence eating, to attack food with enthusiasm   
Brekkie **:** breakfast   
Buckley’s, Buckley’s chance : no chance (“New Zealand stands Buckley’s of beating Australia at football”)

**C**  
Cactus : dead, not functioning (“this bloody washing machine is cactus”)   
Cark it : to die, cease functioning  
Chewie : chewing gum   
Chokkie : chocolate   
Chuck a sickie : take the day off sick from work when you’re perfectly healthyCobber : friend   
  
**D**  
Dag : a funny person, nerd, goof   
Daks : trousers   
Damper : bread made from flour and waterDill **:** an idiot   
Dinkum, fair dinkum : true, real, genuine (“I’m a dinkum Aussie”; “is he fair dinkum?”)   
Dog : unattractive woman  
Doozey : something very pleasant, significant, large   
Down Under : Australia and New Zealand   
Drongo : a dope, stupid personDrum : information, tip-off (“I’ll give you the drum”)   
Durry : cigarette

**E**  
Earbashing : nagging, non-stop chatter   
Exy : expensive

**F**  
Fair go : a chance (“give a bloke a fair go”)  
Fairy floss : candy floss, cotton candy   
Footy : Australian Rules football   
Fossicking : searching, rummaging (“fossicking through the kitchen drawers”)   
Fruit loop : fool

**G**  
G’Day : hello!   
Give it a burl : try it, have a go   
Good oil : useful information, a good idea, the truth   
Grouse (adj.) : great, terrific, very good

**H**  
Heaps : a lot, e.g. “thanks heaps”, “(s)he earned heaps of money” etc.  
Hooroo : goodbye   
Hottie : hot water bottle

**I**  
Icy pole, ice block : popsicle, lollypop

**J**  
Joey : baby kangaroo Journo **:** journalist   
Jumbuck : sheep

**K**  
Kindie : kindergarten   
Knock : to criticise   
Knock back : refusal (noun), refuse (transitive verb)   
Knocker : somebody who criticises

**L**  
Lair it up : to behave in a brash and vulgar manner   
Larrikin : a bloke who is always enjoying himself, harmless prankster   
Lend of, to have a : to take advantage of somebody’s gullibility, to have someone on (“he’s having a lend of you”)   
Lippy : lipstick   
Liquid laugh : vomit   
Lizard drinking, flat out like a : flat out, busy London to a brick : absolute certainty (“it’s London to a brick that taxes won’t go down”)   
Loo : toilet

**M**  
Maccas (pron. “mackers”) : McDonald’s (the hamburger place)Mate : buddy, friend   
Mickey Mouse **:** excellent, very good. Beware though - in some parts of Australia it means inconsequential, frivolous or not very good!   
Mongrel **:** despicable person   
Moolah : money  
Mozzie : mosquito   
Mug : friendly insult (“have a go, yer mug”), gullible personMuster **:** round up sheep or cattle

**N**  
No worries! : Expression of forgiveness or reassurance (No problem; forget about it; I can do it; Yes, I’ll do it)   
No-hoper : somebody who’ll never do well   
Not the full quid : not bright intellectually

**O**  
Ocker : an unsophisticated person   
Offsider : an assistant, helper   
Oldies **:** parents - “I’ll have to ask my oldies”   
Oz : Australia!

**P**  
Pav : Pavlova - a rich, creamy Australian dessert  
Pig’s arse! : I don’t agree with you   
Piker : Someone who doesn’t want to fit in with others socially, leaves parties early   
Plate, bring a : Instruction on party or BBQ invitation to bring your own food. It doesn’t mean they’re short of crockery!   
Pokies **:** poker machines, fruit machines, gambling slot machines   
Polly : politician   
Pom, pommy : an Englishman   
Prezzy : present, gift

**Q**  
Quid, make a : earn a living - “are you making a quid?”   
 **R**  
Ratbag : mild insult   
Raw prawn, to come the : to bullshit, to be generally disagreeable   
Reckon! : you bet! Absolutely! Rellie **:** family relative   
Ridgy-didge : original, genuine   
Right : okay (“she’ll be right, mate”)   
Rip snorter : great, fantastic - “it was a rip snorter of a party”   
Roo : kangaroo   
Root (verb and noun) : synonym for f\*ck in nearly all its senses: “I feel rooted”; “this washing machine is rooted”; “(s)he’s a good root”. A very useful word in fairly polite company.   
Rubbish (verb) : to criticize

**S**  
Sanger **:** a sandwich   
Seppo : an American  
Sheila : a woman   
Sickie : day off sick from work (chuck a sickie = take the day off sick from work when you’re perfectly healthy!)   
Spit the dummy : get very upset at something   
Stoked : very pleasedStrides : trousers   
Stuffed, I feel : I’m tired   
Stuffed, I’ll be : expression of surprise   
  
**T**  
Tall poppy syndrome : the tendency to criticize successful people   
Tee-up : to set up (an appointment)   
Thingo : Wadjamacallit, thingummy, whatsit   
Tickets, to have on oneself : to have a high opinion of oneself   
 **U**  
Uni : university   
Unit : flat, apartment   
Up oneself : have a high opinion of oneself - “he’s really up himself”   
Up somebody, get **:** to rebuke somebody - “the boss got up me for being late”

**W**  
Waggin’ school : playing truant   
Walkabout, it’s gone : it’s lost, can’t be found   
Whinge : complain   
Wobbly : excitable behaviour (“I complained about the food and the waiter threw a wobbly”)   
Wowser : straight-laced person, prude, puritan, spoilsport   
Wuss : coward; nervous person or animal

**Y**  
Yabber : talk (a lot)   
Yakka : work (noun)   
Yewy : u-turn in traffic (“chuck a yewy at the next traffic lights”)   
Youse : you (plural)